

FAMILY COURT  
State of Delaware

2022 Annual Report Statistical Information

## FAMILY COURT

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2021-2022 - Adult Criminal Case Filings</b>				
	2021	2022	Change	% Change
New Castle County	2,737	2,811	74	2.7%
Kent County	907	1,077	170	18.7%
Sussex County	725	843	118	16.3%
<b>State</b>	<b>4,369</b>	<b>4,731</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>8.3%</b>

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2021-2022 - Adult Criminal Dispositions</b>				
	2021	2022	Change	% Change
New Castle County	1,333	2,394	1,061	79.6%
Kent County	792	835	43	5.4%
Sussex County	659	826	167	25.3%
<b>State</b>	<b>2,784</b>	<b>4,055</b>	<b>1,271</b>	<b>45.7%</b>

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2021-2022 - Civil Case Filings</b>				
	2021	2022	Change	% Change
New Castle County	16,508	15,735	-773	-4.7%
Kent County	7,153	7,076	-77	-1.1%
Sussex County	7,286	7,052	-234	-3.2%
<b>State</b>	<b>30,947</b>	<b>29,863</b>	<b>-1,084</b>	<b>-3.5%</b>

<b>Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2021-2022 - Civil Case Dispositions</b>				
	2021	2022	Change	% Change
New Castle County	16,004	15,572	-432	-2.7%
Kent County	7,275	7,166	-109	-1.5%
Sussex County	7,433	7,603	170	2.3%
<b>State</b>	<b>30,712</b>	<b>30,341</b>	<b>-371</b>	<b>-1.2%</b>

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

## Caseload Breakdown - Fiscal Year 2022 - Civil Case Filings

	Child Support/New Non-support		Child Support/Modifications		Child Support/Arrearages		Child Support/Verified Notice of Income Attachment	
New Castle County	2,931	18.6%	585	3.7%	518	3.3%	7	0.0%
Kent County	1,214	17.2%	285	4.0%	101	1.4%	1	0.0%
Sussex County	1,234	17.5%	280	4.0%	408	5.8%	0	0.0%
<b>State</b>	<b>5,379</b>	<b>18.0%</b>	<b>1,150</b>	<b>3.9%</b>	<b>1,027</b>	<b>3.4%</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
	Child Support/Determination of Parentage		Child Support/Revocation		Child Support/Registration of Foreign Order		Child Support/Notice of Admin. Adjustment	
New Castle County	158	1.0%	239	1.5%	105	0.7%	2,347	14.9%
Kent County	59	0.8%	112	1.6%	55	0.8%	1,257	17.8%
Sussex County	59	0.8%	94	1.3%	54	0.8%	1,630	23.1%
<b>State</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>0.9%</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>5,234</b>	<b>17.5%</b>
	Child Support/Other Support		Custody		Dependency/Neglect		Visitation	
New Castle County	9	0.1%	1,591	10.1%	209	1.3%	205	1.3%
Kent County	8	0.1%	683	9.7%	66	0.9%	95	1.3%
Sussex County	9	0.1%	624	8.8%	27	0.4%	68	1.0%
<b>State</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>2,898</b>	<b>9.7%</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
	Termination of Parental Rights		Civil Dissolution*		Guardianship		Spousal Support	
New Castle County	105	0.7%	0	0.0%	779	5.0%	50	0.3%
Kent County	30	0.4%	0	0.0%	444	6.3%	23	0.3%
Sussex County	40	0.6%	0	0.0%	371	5.3%	14	0.2%
<b>State</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>0.6%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>1,594</b>	<b>5.3%</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
	Expungements (Juv. & Adult)		Imperiling Family Relationships		Protection from Abuse		Divorce/Annulment	
New Castle County	943	6.0%	8	0.1%	2,405	15.3%	1,650	10.5%
Kent County	353	5.0%	3	0.0%	1,251	17.7%	714	10.1%
Sussex County	372	5.3%	4	0.1%	746	10.6%	755	10.7%
<b>State</b>	<b>1,668</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>4,402</b>	<b>14.7%</b>	<b>3,119</b>	<b>10.4%</b>
	Rules to Show Cause/Other Civil Contempt		Minor Name Change		Miscellaneous Civil		Adoption	
New Castle County	487	3.1%	166	1.1%	170	1.1%	68	0.4%
Kent County	174	2.5%	47	0.7%	62	0.9%	39	0.6%
Sussex County	110	1.6%	40	0.6%	74	1.0%	39	0.6%
<b>State</b>	<b>771</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>253</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>1.0%</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
	<b>Total</b>							
New Castle County	15,735	100%						
Kent County	7,076	100%						
Sussex County	7,052	100%						
<b>State</b>	<b>29,863</b>	<b>100%</b>						

\*As of FY19, Family Court no longer handles these cases.

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

## Caseload Breakdown - Fiscal Year 2022 - Civil Case Dispositions

	Child Support/New Non-support		Child Support/Modifications		Child Support/Arrearages		Child Support/Verified Notice of Income Attachment	
New Castle County	2,512	16.1%	682	4.4%	734	4.7%	4	0.0%
Kent County	1,201	16.8%	281	3.9%	160	2.2%	0	0.0%
Sussex County	1,488	19.6%	342	4.5%	682	9.0%	1	0.0%
<b>State</b>	<b>5,201</b>	<b>17.1%</b>	<b>1,305</b>	<b>4.3%</b>	<b>1,576</b>	<b>5.2%</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
	Child Support/Determination of Parentage		Child Support/Revocation		Child Support/Registration of Foreign Order		Child Support/Notice of Admin. Adjustment	
New Castle County	124	0.8%	223	1.4%	89	0.6%	2,342	15.0%
Kent County	70	1.0%	108	1.5%	62	0.9%	1,176	16.4%
Sussex County	54	0.7%	88	1.2%	59	0.8%	1,633	21.5%
<b>State</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>1.4%</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>0.7%</b>	<b>5,151</b>	<b>17.0%</b>
	Child Support/Other Support		Custody		Dependency/Neglect		Visitation	
New Castle County	5	0.0%	1,629	10.5%	174	1.1%	226	1.5%
Kent County	7	0.1%	696	9.7%	42	0.6%	86	1.2%
Sussex County	9	0.1%	597	7.9%	26	0.3%	59	0.8%
<b>State</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>2,922</b>	<b>9.6%</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>1.2%</b>
	Termination of Parental Rights		Civil Dissolution*		Guardianship		Spousal Support	
New Castle County	110	0.7%	0	0.0%	777	5.0%	48	0.3%
Kent County	33	0.5%	0	0.0%	427	6.0%	33	0.5%
Sussex County	16	0.2%	0	0.0%	324	4.3%	14	0.2%
<b>State</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>1,528</b>	<b>5.0%</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
	Expungements (Juv. & Adult)		Imperiling Family Relationships		Protection from Abuse		Divorce/Annulment	
New Castle County	932	6.0%	7	0.0%	2,489	16.0%	1,582	10.2%
Kent County	348	4.9%	3	0.0%	1,303	18.2%	781	10.9%
Sussex County	399	5.2%	2	0.0%	777	10.2%	788	10.4%
<b>State</b>	<b>1,679</b>	<b>5.5%</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>4,569</b>	<b>15.1%</b>	<b>3,151</b>	<b>10.4%</b>
	Rules to Show Cause/Other Civil Contempt		Minor Name Change		Miscellaneous Civil		Adoption	
New Castle County	491	3.2%	141	0.9%	194	1.2%	57	0.4%
Kent County	204	2.8%	44	0.6%	71	1.0%	30	0.4%
Sussex County	101	1.3%	47	0.6%	76	1.0%	21	0.3%
<b>State</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>2.6%</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>0.8%</b>	<b>341</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>0.4%</b>
	<b>Total</b>							
New Castle County	15,572	100%						
Kent County	7,166	100%						
Sussex County	7,603	100%						
<b>State</b>	<b>30,341</b>	<b>100%</b>						

\*As of FY19, Family Court no longer handles these cases.

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2021-2022 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Filings

	2021	2022	Change	% Change
New Castle County	1,384	1,525	141	10.2%
Kent County	373	528	155	41.6%
Sussex County	494	612	118	23.9%
<b>State</b>	<b>2,251</b>	<b>2,665</b>	<b>414</b>	<b>18.4%</b>

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2021-2022 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Dispositions

	2021	2022	Change	% Change
New Castle County	1,393	1,655	262	18.8%
Kent County	477	553	76	15.9%
Sussex County	535	691	156	29.2%
<b>State</b>	<b>2,405</b>	<b>2,899</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>20.5%</b>

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

### Caseload Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2022 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Filings

	Felony		Misdemeanor		Traffic	
New Castle County	562	36.9%	693	45.4%	130	8.5%
Kent County	178	33.7%	265	50.2%	56	10.6%
Sussex County	144	23.5%	312	51.0%	150	24.5%
<b>State</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>33.2%</b>	<b>1,270</b>	<b>47.7%</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>12.6%</b>
	VOP				<b>Total</b>	
New Castle County	140	9.2%			1,525	100%
Kent County	29	5.5%			528	100%
Sussex County	6	1.0%			612	100%
<b>State</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>6.6%</b>			<b>2,665</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Caseload Breakdowns - Fiscal Year 2022 - Juvenile Delinquency Case Dispositions

	Felony		Misdemeanor		Traffic	
New Castle County	589	35.6%	777	46.9%	181	10.9%
Kent County	130	23.5%	319	57.7%	79	14.3%
Sussex County	138	20.0%	368	53.3%	174	25.2%
<b>State</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>29.6%</b>	<b>1,464</b>	<b>50.5%</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>15.0%</b>
	VOP				Total	
New Castle County	108	6.5%			1,655	100%
Kent County	25	4.5%			553	100%
Sussex County	11	1.6%			691	100%
<b>State</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>5.0%</b>			<b>2,899</b>	<b>100%</b>

Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.

VOP = Violations of Probation.

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

## Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2021-2022- Mediation Hearings Scheduled

	2021	2022	Change	% Change
New Castle County	3,689	3,272	-417	-11.3%
Kent County	2,202	1,940	-262	-11.9%
Sussex County	2,538	2,293	-245	-9.7%
<b>State</b>	<b>8,429</b>	<b>7,505</b>	<b>-924</b>	<b>-11.0%</b>

\*Due to a data issue, fiscal year 2022 disposition information is not present. The issue has been resolved and will return next FY.

Note: Mediation is the process prior to adjudication in which a trained mediator attempts to assist the parties in reaching an agreement. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement, the matter is scheduled to be heard before a Commissioner or Judge.

Source: Court Administrator, Family Court; Administrative Office of the Courts.

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2021-2022 - Total Case Filings

	2021	2022	Change	% Change
New Castle County	20,629	20,071	-558	-2.7%
Kent County	8,433	8,681	248	2.9%
Sussex County	8,505	8,507	2	0.0%
<b>State</b>	<b>37,567</b>	<b>37,259</b>	<b>-308</b>	<b>-0.8%</b>

### Caseload Comparison - Fiscal Years 2021-2022- Total Case Dispositions

	2021	2022	Change	% Change
New Castle County	18,730	19,621	891	4.8%
Kent County	8,544	8,554	10	0.1%
Sussex County	8,627	9,120	493	5.7%
<b>State</b>	<b>35,901</b>	<b>37,295</b>	<b>1,394</b>	<b>3.9%</b>

#### Notes:

\*A civil filing is defined as one petition or one single civil incident filed with the Family Court. In a divorce matter, although the petition may contain multiple ancillary matters to the divorce, it is counted as only one filing.

\*A criminal or delinquency filing is defined as one incident filed against one individual or defendant. A single criminal or juvenile delinquency filing may be comprised of a single or of multiple charges relating to a single incident.

\*Mediation is the process prior to adjudication in which a trained mediator attempts to assist the parties in reaching an agreement. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement or the mediation does not occur as scheduled, the matter is scheduled to be heard before a Commissioner or Judge or rescheduled back to a mediation calendar.

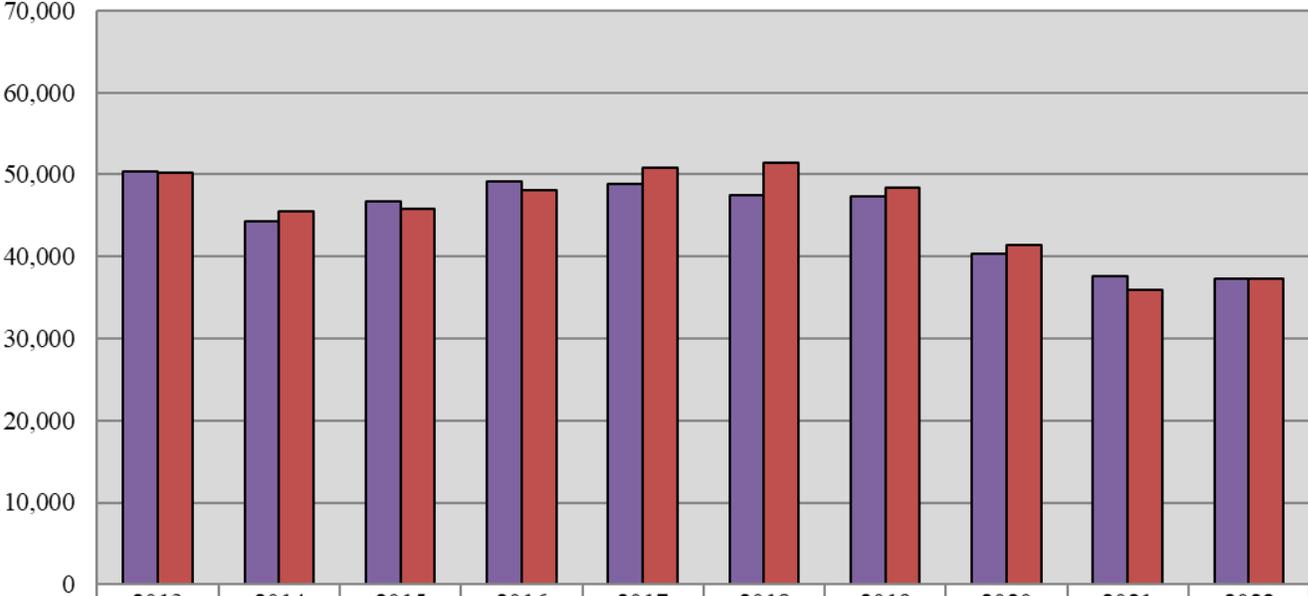
\*Custody, support, visitation, paternity, guardianship, imperiling family relations, and rule to show cause filings are scheduled for mediation unless bypass mediation rules apply as indicated in 13 Del. C. § 711A and 13 Del. C. § 728A; Family Court Procedures OCI-914 and OCI-902.

\*Automatic Expungements/Pardons resulting in Automatic Juvenile Expungements are counted as filings in this report due to the amount of staff effort to process them. Although there is not a disposition from a Hearing Officer for Automatic Expungements, the directive letter from SBI is acted upon by our staff. Therefore, the resolution of these types of filings are added to the same month they are received in the Disposition sections of this report.

\*Due to expungements, Criminal Filings / Dispositions stats were taken from reports ran each month throughout the year. While this method will not catch all filing and dispositions that may have been expunged, this is the method that will allow us to capture the most. The volume of expungements will affect all data regarding juvenile criminal charges. Any decreases from prior Fiscal Years should not be assumed to be actual decreases as we don't have a definitive way to measure the impact of all the charges immediately expunged.

\*Fiscal Year 2021 Stats were most likely impacted by the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic and changes from past or future years should consider this impact.

# Family Court 10-Year Total Caseload Trend



	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Filings	50,364	44,243	46,681	49,093	48,834	47,469	47,383	40,331	37,567	37,259
Dispositions	50,191	45,516	45,884	48,067	50,869	51,400	48,462	41,371	35,901	37,295

**Fiscal Year**